



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 27, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 22 totaled 354,201, up 2.0 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 0.1 percent above the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 4.3 percent in the East but down 0.6 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, coal loadings were up 9,108 cars (7.7 percent), loadings of chemicals rose 2,555 cars (9.2 percent), and loadings of metallic ores were up 1,645 cars (8.3 percent). Grain loadings were down 3,191 cars (9.7 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 16 weeks of 1989 totaled 5,344,143, up 0.6 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 113,308 trailers and/or containers for the week ended April 22, up 2.6 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 16 weeks of 1989 was 1,794,076 trailers and/or containers, up 1.9 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended April 22 totaled 20.1 billion, 2.0 percent above the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 16 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 309.0 billion ton-miles, up 1.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 22, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP					
COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING APRIL 22, 1989	COMPARISON WITH			
		SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	29,659	32,850	-9.7 %	31,050	-4.5 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,501	2,226	12.4	2,396	4.4
Metallic Ores	21,385	19,740	8.3	21,414	-1
Coal	128,045	118,937	7.7	128,629	-5
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	16,326	16,550	-1.4	15,388	6.1
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,696	10,831	-10.5	9,897	-2.0
Grain Mill Products	10,152	10,661	-4.8	10,240	-9
Food & Kindred Products	8,843	9,310	-5.0	8,513	3.9
Primary Forest Products	9,435	9,226	2.3	9,630	-2.0
Lumber & Wood Products	6,882	7,929	-13.2	6,734	2.2
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,427	10,522	-9	10,224	2.0
Chemicals	30,272	27,717	9.2	29,260	3.5
Petroleum Products	5,218	4,707	10.9	5,002	4.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,126	10,973	1.4	10,518	5.8
Coke	5,728	5,831	-1.8	6,113	-6.3
Metals & Products	9,897	10,896	-9.2	9,956	-6
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	21,872	21,474	1.9	22,540	-3.0
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,387	9,725	-3.5	9,489	-1.1
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	6	30	-80.0	5	20.0
All Other Carloads	7,344	7,032	4.4	6,980	5.2
Total	354,201	347,167	2.0 %	353,978	.1 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES						
TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING APRIL 22, 1989			CUMULATIVE: 16 WEEKS ENDING APRIL 22, 1989		
	1989	1988	CHANGE	1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	354,201	347,167	2.0 %	5,344,143	5,310,717	.6 %
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	67,486	67,798	-5	1,043,285	1,071,837	-2.7
Containers	45,822	42,663	7.4	750,791	689,168	8.9
Total	113,308	110,461	2.6	1,794,076	1,761,005	1.9
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	20.1	19.7	2.0 %	309.0	305.3	1.2 %